**“The Crucible”: *Act One: Questions***

Directions: Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper as you read Act One.

1. Why is Reverend Parris praying at the beginning of Act One? Might he have more than one reason?

2. What did Reverend Parris do before coming to Salem?

3. Who is Tituba?

4. What is the relationship between Abigail and Reverend Parris? Why does she live with him?

5. What rumors are circulating in the village?

6. Describe what Reverend Parris encountered in the woods. Why would this be an especially upsetting sight for a Puritan minister?

7. What happened to Abigail seven months before Act One?

8. What reason does Abigail give for being dismissed from the Proctor residence?

9. What similarity exists between Ruth Putnam and Betty Parris? What difference do the Putnams notice?

10. What tragedy occurred in Mrs. Putnam’s life?

11. Why did Mrs. Putnam contact Tituba?

12. In what way does Abigail’s behavior change when she is alone with the girls? What does this reveal about her character?

13. In what way does Abigail’s behavior change when she is alone with Proctor? What do we learn about Abigail and Proctor in this scene?

14. Who is Rebecca Nurse? What effect does her presence have on Betty?

15. How does Mrs. Putnam feel about Rebecca? Why?

16. Who is Giles Corey? How does John Proctor seem to feel about Giles?

17. Proctor is not a fan of Parris’ preaching. What reasons does he give for his dislike?

18. Explain the argument regarding Reverend Parris’ salary. What does this reveal about Reverend Parris?

19. Explain the land dispute between Putnam and Proctor. What does Proctor tell us about Putnam?

20. Who is Reverend Hale? For what reason is he called to Salem?

21. What question does Giles Corey have for Reverend Hale?

22. Why does Abigail blame Tituba for the incident in the woods? What effect does this accusation have on Reverend Hale’s questioning of Abigail?

23. Why does Tituba confess to seeing the devil? Which women does she claim to have seen with the devil? What effect do these accusations have on Reverend Hale’s questioning of Tituba?

24. Why does Abigail join Tituba in the calling of names? What effect does this have on the other girls in the room?

25. Act One ends with the following stage direction: “On their ecstatic cries.” What does this direction imply?